

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 THE HA 01180 051626Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 EURE-00 /076 W

----- 029787

P R 051531Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5389

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1180

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, NL

SUBJECT: COMPLICATION IN FONMIN VAN DER STOEL'S

SCHEDULED VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: THE HAGUE 0835

1. DURING LUNCHEON WITH DCM ON MARCH 5 FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL RUTTEN MENTIONED THE FOLLOWING FOR THE EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, SAYING THAT THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

2. RUTTEN SAID THAT THE SAUDI EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE HAD INDICATED THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE A VISA TO A "HET VRIJE VOLK" CORRESPONDENT NAMED VAN WEEZEL SCHEDULED TO ACCOMPANY VAN DER STOEL ON HIS MARCH 22 VISIT TO JIDDA BECAUSE HE IS JEWISH. THE SAUDIS HAVE TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THIS IS N KEEPING WITH THEIR PRACTICE OF DENYING VISAS TO ALL JEWISH MEMBERS OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING AMERICAN. THEY GAVE NO INDICATION THAT THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN THE CASE OF MR. VAN WEEZEL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 01180 051626Z

3. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, RUTTEN SAID THAT THE MATTER HAD COME UP WHEN "HET VRIJE VOLK" TELEPHONED THE SAUDI EMBASSY TO SAY THAT THEIR CORRESPONDENT, VAN WEEZEL, WAS JEWISH BUT THEY ASSUMED THERE WOULD BE NO VISA PROBLEM BECAUSE HE WAS SCHEDULED TO ACCOMPANY THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO JIDDA. THE SAUDI REPLY, ACCORDING TO RUTTEN WAS TO THE EFFECT THAT THERE PROBABLY WOULD BE A PROBLEM. RUTTEN COMMENTED THAT THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A DELIBERATE PROVOCATION ON THE PART OF "HET VRIJE VOLK" A LEFTIST NEWSPAPER WHICH HAS NO LOVE FOR VAN DER STOEL AND MAY HAVE WISHED TO PUT HIM ON THE SPOT.

4. IT WAS RUTTEN'S OPINION, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE STRENUOUS PARLIAMENTARY AND MEDIA CRITICISM OF VAN DER STOEL LAST FALL OFR THE NETHERLANDS' UNGA VOTES ON THE PLO RESOLUTIONS, THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR VAN DER STOEL TO GO AHEAD WITH HIS VISIT IF HE ACCEPTED THE EXCLUSION OF VAN WEEZEL. HOWEVER, FONOFF THOUGHT IT WOULD BE RELEVANT TO ASCERTAIN THE US PRACTICE IN VIEW OF THE CATEGORIC SAUDI POSITION REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 ABOVE AND HAD THEREFORE INSTRUCTED THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY TO GET THE FACTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

5. DCM THANKED RUTTEN FOR INFORMING HIM OF THIS UNFORTUNATE DEVELOPMENT AND A SIMPLY NOTED THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD ORDERED A REPORT FROM THE VARIOUS US DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED IN VIEW OF A DOD STATEMENT THAT IT WAS LOOKING INTO A REPORT THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS HAD DELIBERATELY BEEN AVOIDING SENDING CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE JEWISH FAITH TO SAUDI ARABIA.
GOULD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975THEHA01180
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750077-0312
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750378/aaaacsuq.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 THE HAGUE 0835
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMPLICATION IN FONMIN VAN DER STOEL'S SCHEDULED VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA
TAGS: PFOR, SA, NL, (VAN DER STOEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006